

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 51-74 and 76-78 were previously pending in the application. Claims 70, 71 and 75-77 are canceled; leaving claims 51-69, 72-74 and 78 are presented for consideration.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 71 and 72 are allowable. In reliance thereon, claim 51 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 71 as well as intervening claim 70. Claim 72 is amended to depend from claim 71. Please note that amended claim 51 also addresses a typographical error.

Claims 51-70, 73, 74 and 76-785 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over GARDNER 3,499,653 in view of SHAPIRO 5,399,024. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 51 is amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 71 and intervening claim 70 and is the only remaining independent claim. Such an amendment is believed to obviate the above rejection as to claim 51.

The dependent claims are believed to be patentable at least for depending from independent claim 51. Please note that several of the dependent claims have been amended for consistency with claim 51 to prevent double inclusion of an element recited in claim 51.

Each of the dependent claims has been checked to determine whether the added features of claim 51 prevent any of the dependent claims from being dependent therefrom. It is seen from original claims 34-37, which recite the added features that these features could depend from any one of the preceding claims and thus, each of the dependent claims is believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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